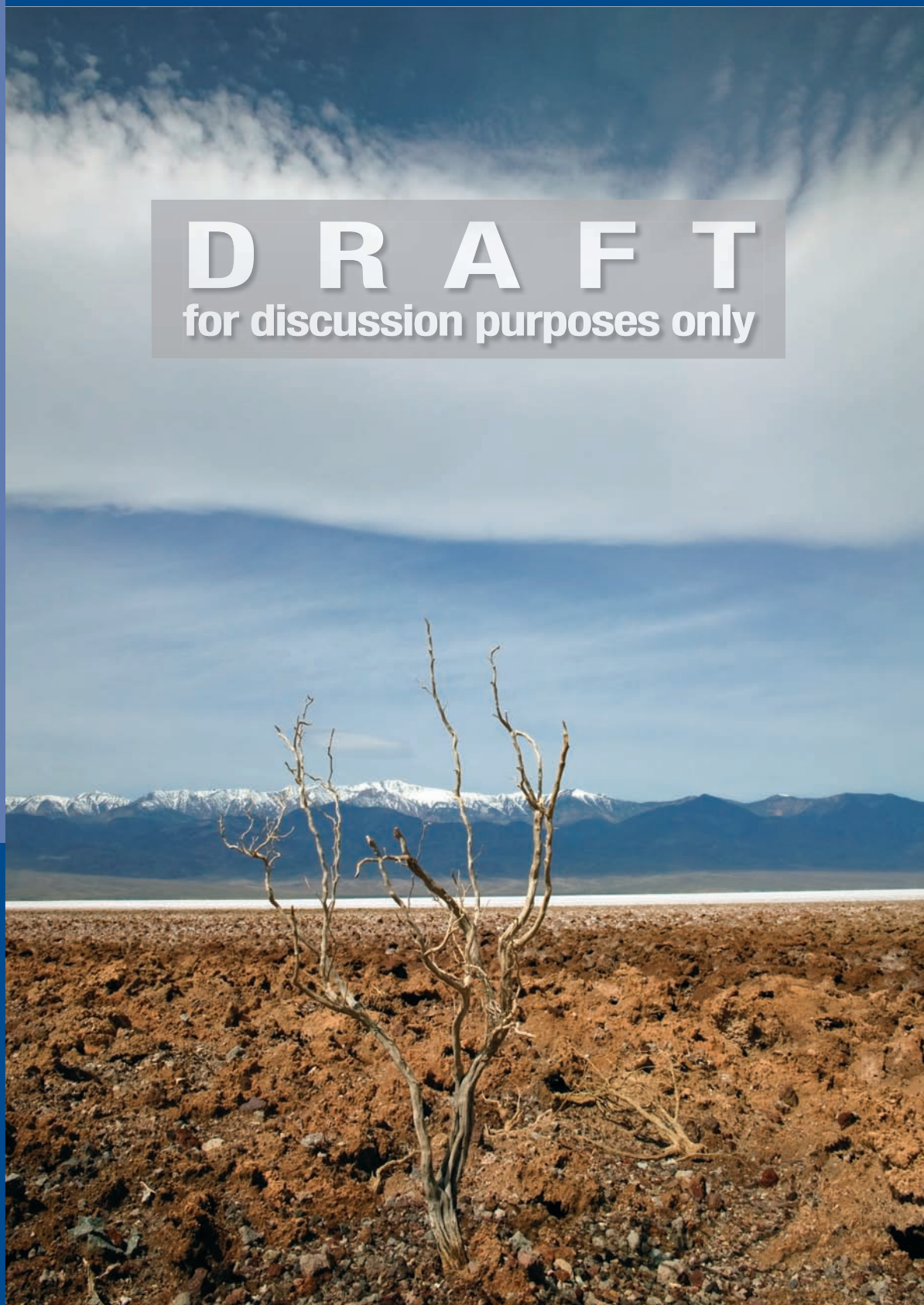


6

Science  
Standard  
6.5.d.



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Playing the Same Role



# California's Environmental Principles



The State of California's Environmental Principles and Concepts were approved in 2004 under a law referred to as the California Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI). The law called for the development of Environmental Principles and Concepts that are compatible with the State's academic content standards and, as such, would become a formal part of California's K-12 education system. The EEI Curriculum, which this unit is part of, is designed to help students simultaneously achieve mastery of selected academic content standards and California's Environmental Principles and Concepts.

## Principle I

### People Depend on Natural Systems

The continuation and health of individual human lives  
and of human communities and societies  
depend on the health of the natural systems that provide essential goods  
and ecosystem services.

## Principle II

### People Influence Natural Systems

The long-term functioning and health of terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems  
are influenced by their relationships with human societies.

## Principle III

### Natural Systems Change in Ways that People Benefit from and Can Influence

Natural systems proceed through cycles  
that humans depend upon, benefit from and can alter.

## Principle IV

### There are no Permanent or Impermeable Boundaries that Prevent Matter from Flowing Between Systems

The exchange of matter between natural systems and human societies  
affects the long-term functioning of both.

## Principle V

### Decisions Affecting Resources and Natural Systems are Complex and Involve Many Factors

Decisions affecting resources and natural systems  
are based on a wide range of considerations  
and decision-making processes.

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## California Education and the Environment Initiative

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California Environmental Protection Agency  
California Integrated Waste Management Board  
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State Education and Environment Roundtable  
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